

Chivilcoy. La región y las chacras. By MAURICIO BIRABENT. [Publicaciones del Archivo Histórico de la Provincia de Buenos Aires. Contribución a la historia de los pueblos de la Provincia de Buenos Aires. XIX.] (La Plata: Taller de Impresiones Oficiales, 1941. Pp. 136.)

Chivilcoy, a district and township in the Province of Buenos Aires, some 100 miles east of the federal capital, forms the subject of this useful addition to a valuable series. Well watered by the Río Salado, its affluents, and numerous small lakes, the district must frequently have been used as a camping ground by the Araucanian Indians of colonial times, although the name Chivilcoy does not appear in official documents until 1758. The theories of Pastor S. Obligado and Trelles that Chivilcoy derived its name from some Indian cacique is less probable than the theory advanced by Estanislao Zeballos and others, that Chivilcoy (or Chivilcó) was a word formed from the Pampa Araucanian dialect and denoted the presence of water.

Señor Birabent then sketches the history of the district, from the first appearance of white settlers, towards the end of the eighteenth century, to 1865, when the first railroad was laid, connecting the town with the city of Buenos Aires. Historical references are slight, emphasis being laid chiefly on the growth of the community. In 1854, the year in which the Province of Buenos Aires adopted its semi-independent status, Chivilcoy became a municipality, and the land-holdings of settlers in this year and in 1857 are indicated in detail.

The monograph is documented and illustrated, and has a bibliography of 46 items. The only regrets are that the repercussions of political events are largely overlooked, that Indian maraudings are not examined in detail, and that the narrative ends at 1866, before the influx of foreign immigrants transformed the agricultural activities of the district.

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Havana: Cinderella's City. By HUGH BRADLEY. (New York: Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., 1941. Pp. 435 + 19. Selected Bibliography. Index. \$3.50.)

This book is a colorful history of Cuba's four hundred and twenty-two-year-old capital. The story here told by Hugh Bradley, the well-known journalist and author of *Such Was Saratoga*, is, however, much more than a conventional history. It is also the dramatic story of the Island of Cuba. For, upon the assumption that "*la ciudad es*

patria pequeña," meaning, "the city is one's country in miniature," the writer has produced a delightfully interesting book which gives an excellent picture of Cuba's rôle in the discovery, exploration, conquest and settlement of the New World. In the bold sweep of this engaging narrative, the reader may see the emergence of Havana as a strategic outpost of an expanding European civilization and follow, in broad outline, its evolution as a city of modern importance in the Western Hemisphere.

In doing this Mr. Bradley has filled his pages with many a spicy tale—some trite, others significant—relating to the historical and institutional development of Havana. Although there are perhaps minor points on which the scholar might wish additional information, the treatment is based on standard secondary accounts. No attempt was made, therefore, to make an original contribution to the history of the city of Havana. Consequently, the volume will be of interest chiefly to the social historian.

GEORGE W. AUXIER.

Department of State.

Exposición de aspectos del Cabildo, fuerte, catedral, recova y Plaza de Mayo (Con motivo de la restauración del Cabildo de Buenos Aires, 12 de Octubre de 1940). By COMISIÓN NACIONAL DE MUSEOS Y DE MONUMENTOS Y LUGARES HISTÓRICOS. Catálogo de la exposición por Alejo B. González Garaño. (Buenos Aires: Guillermo Kraft, 1940. Pp. 39, láminas 30. Paper.)

Dr. Ricardo Levene and the Argentine National Commission of Museums and of Monuments and Historic Sites have labored with devotion to restore Argentina's historic buildings. No structure deserved better at their hands than the Cabildo of Buenos Aires on the Plaza de Mayo. Its restoration and rededication late in 1940 were accompanied by an exhibition of 182 old paintings, engravings, and photographs of Buenos Aires, the Cabildo, the ancient fort, the Casa Rosada, the Cathedral, and the old Teatro Colón. This brochure is a catalogue of the exhibition, incorporating excellent reproductions of thirty of the exhibits.

HAROLD F. PETERSON.

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San Dionisio de los Caballeros de Tocaima. By ALEJANDRO CARRANZA B. [Biblioteca de Historia Nacional, Vol. LXIV.] (Bogotá: Editorial ABC, 1941. Venta: Librería Colombiana. Pp. x, 286. Paper. 2 pesos.)

This volume reflects that love of the *patria chica* which, under the stimulus of the current wave of fourth-centenary celebrations, is pro-